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Local News.—The City and Suburban News Bureau of the Unren Pages and New Yong Associated Pages is at 21 to 39 Am street. All information and docu-ments for public use instantly disseminated to the press of the whole country.

The First State Election of 1896.

Six years ago the Democrats carried Rhode Island by 1,560 plurality for Governor That was the year of the Democratic tidal Five years ago they carried it by 1,254 plurality. In 1898 they carried it again by 185 plurality. The next year, 1894, was the year of the Republican tidal wave, and the Republican plurality was 8,507. Last year it rose to 10,809. Day before yesterday Rhode Island reflected its Republican Governor by 11,278 plurality in a total vote of only about 50,000.

Rhode Island is a typical State because it is somewhat mercurial in its political manifestations. Thrice in the brief period here considered it has gone Democratic; and in each instance the Democratic victory in that State was an incident of the preponderance of Democratic sentiment throughout the country. The Republican pluralities in Rhode Island, on the other hand, have varied according to the general situation as between the two great parties. The plurality on Wednesday was immense; immense for Rhode Island.

This is the first State election occurring in the present Presidential year. Two other States will hold elections before the National Conventions, namely, Louisiana on Monday, April 20, and Oregon on Monday, June 1. In neither of these States will the result be quite so significant as that in Rhode Island; in Louisiana less significant because of the confusion of party lines. and in Oregon less significant because no Governor is to be chosen this year.

Is There to Be Another Stuffed Prophet?

The tendency of a part of the grand old Republican party just now seems to be to construct another stuffed prophet and to set him up before the people. The great danger of the Republicans engaged in this enterprise is that they may stuff their prophet too soon and too fast; stuff him to the bursting point, in fact, before he is elected or even before he is nominated.

The erection of a good and respectable politician of fair abilities into an ideal statesman and popular idol is always an interesting process to watch; but there is such a thing as forcing it. The sawdust, or straw, or bran, or what not, should be inserted by single handfuls and disposed evenly and artistically upon the interior. It cannot be pumped in by a steam engine, or dumped in by the ton.

This is meant to be an altogether friendly warning to the friends of Major McKinley. Their frantic efforts to represent their candidate as a man whose moral and intellectual greatness is something far beyond what the country has ever suspected, inspires more or less solicitude in prudent minds.

If McKINLEY it is to be, let us have the real McKINLEY from the start to the finish; with his excellences and his defects of character, his strength and his weakness, alike understood by his fellow citizens. At all events, at least let the man go into the St. Louis Convention as a real, living person, and not as an effigy hastily stuffed to order in about two months.

Do not the promoters of this new idolstry understand that if Major McKINLEY should fail to get the nomination-and nothing in Convention politics is certain until the last ballot has been taken and the result announced-the unfortunate victim of their mistaken zeal will be weighted for life with factitious reputation, which will make his best actual performances seem insignificant or ridiculous?

No more stuffed prophets in American

The Situation in Cuba.

We have not seen any reason for doubting the accuracy of THE SUN's advices, printed on Monday last, that the cargo of the armsbearing ship Bermuda had been landed in Cubs, and had come into the possession of the Cuban army. Had the vessel been captured by the Spanish armada before delivering her goods, there would certainly have been a Spanish bombilation, warranted to shake the seas and the solid earth. We guess that the Cubans have and hold the arms that were shipped in the Bermuda. We guess also that Gen. CALIXTO GARCIA, who took passage in her, is upon his native soil, and within sight of the revolution. The news of the capture of GARCIA by Spain would not have been withheld from

mankind. The Spanish reports of the death of the aged Cuban commander, GOMEZ, which we have got so often within a year, are again sent to us. We do not doubt that he is yet alive, and at the head of the revolutionary army. We are aware that his health is not good, that his body is covered with wounds, that he risks his own life in every encounter with the enemy, and that he must be sadly worn with the warlike trials of the past twelvemonth. Were he to lose his life, it would be a most grievous thing; for he is not only an unflinching patriot, but a soldier of wonderful resources, whose record has been one of almost unvarying success. But if he were lost to Cuba, the revolution would go on. At least a half dozen Generals of exceptional ability are engaged in it. Gen. GARCIA. a valorous veteran of the ten years' war for liberation, manifested his ability a commander against VALMASEDA; Gen. MACEO, next in rank to GOMEZ, is a soldier of genius and courage. whose record is hardly less distinguished than that of the General-in-Chief; and several of the Generals of the other army corps have rendered service of surpassing value. All the subordinate leaders of the Cuban forces are men who have proved that they are worthy of the cause for which they fight. For all that, we shall hope for the life of GOMEZ, and trust that he may live

Notwithstanding the failure and the broken promises of Captain-General WEY-LER, and the dissatisfaction of the Spanish Government with him, we have a denial from Havana that he will throw up place. The denial is credible. He gots a tempting salary; he possesses supreme authority; he is at the head of nearly the whole Spanish army; and he is safe behind Havana's fortifications. His camer would close in disgrace, were he to sur- opponents than were the Turks under Soly- therefore, alter the gold standard of the

to witness the success of the revolution.

render his office. It remains, therefore, for the Spanish Government to eject WEYLES whenever it can find a successor for him. He is a braggart, a blunderer, a falsifler, and a brutal wretch. If he got the 40,000 more troops which he has asked for, he would misuse them as he misuses thrice that number.

The revolutionary army corps in the three western provinces of Cuba are as active as ever they were at any time of the war. There are combats almost every day, and in some of them a good many thousands of men are engaged. Gomez gave battle to 6,000 Spanish troops at the city of Santa Clara last week and put them to flight. MACEO has 9,000 armed men, with whom he traverses the provinces of Pinar and Havana, fighting the Spaniards wherever be finds them. We now know that the battle at Candelaria was disastrous to Spain; and in two of the letters of our Havana correspondent which we have lately printed, we neard of revolutionary successes within a territory measuring hundreds of miles

There were most important statements is our Havana letter published on Wednes day. The revolutionists have been engaged in perfecting their military or ganization, getting themselves in readiness for a summer campaign against the enemy. There is a camp near Los Palos, in which as many as 11,000 volunteers have been drilled and brought under discipline, and in which they are trained not only for regimental mangeuvres, but for patrol duty and guerrilla service. Revolutionary Governors, military and civil, have been appointed over the whole island. Great care is taken of the condition of the patriot sanitary The wounded are carried to hidden camps in the woods, where nurses and hammocks are kept for them The poor people of the several districts are supplied with provisions, and whole villages, in order to save themselves from starvation have taken refuge within the revolutionary lines. The facts communicated to us by our well-informed correspondent furnish the best reply to the false Spanish despatches about the breaking up of the patriot army. That army, as it is represented to us, is now in better estate and better spirit than the army of Spain. "If any one," said our correspondent, "thinks that this Cuban revolution doesn't amount to any thing, he would do well to come here and run up against the army that has been or

ganized within a year." On Wednesday we printed a Spanish official despatch from Havana almost as abominable as the one published on Tuesday, boasting of the destruction of patriot hospitals by Col. MONCADA of the Spanish army. The Havana censor, acting under WEYLER's orders, sent us a despatch on March 81 in which there was this passage

"Gen. Banous reports that he has captured an insurgent camp near Guantanamo, province of Santlago de Cuba. In the fighting the insurgents lost six killed and four wounded. Twenty-five prisoners were taken PEREZ. The women were acting as nurses. The troops destroyed all the equipments, medicines, and effects found in the camp.

Such is the Spanish chivalry that is exhibited in the Cuban war. This military miscreant, BARGES, took prisoners *wentyone women who were acting as nurses in an insurgent camp, doubtless one of those hospital camps previously spoken of, and destroyed all the medicines! Six insurgents, probably patients in the camp, were killed, and six wounded. This must have been a battle, indeed. Poor women! Devoted nurses! Cowardly BARGES! a General in the army of Spain. And it is BARGES himself who makes report of this exploit of dastardy. The President of the Cuban republic and the Generals of the Cuban army will not permit the revolutionary soldiers to practise retaliation; but surely no humane man could object to the act of any Cuban who would catch and bind BARGES, the capturer of women nurses, and MONCADA, the destroyer of hospitals.

The revolution in Cuba goes on, and must go on.

Italy and Abyssinia.

According to a telegram from Rome, King MENELEE and most of his chiefs have retreated and have no intention of resuming operations until after the close of the rainy season in October. By that time it is probable that the negotiations for peace and for the ransoming of prisoners will have been completed. Meanwhile, the Italians will be at liberty to reënforce the garrison at Kassala, and thus the pretext for the Anglo-Egyptian expedition against Dongola seems to have vanished.

In the partition of Africa there was an understanding, to which, however, Russia was no party, that Italy should be left at liberty to establish a protectorate over Abyssinia. Could King HUMBERT's Government have made good the pretensions sanctioned by most of the European powers, she would have acquired one of the most valuable sections of the Dark Continent, and one peculiarly fitted by climatological conditions for a white population. But it is now recognized by the Italians that the conquest of King MENELER's dominions is beyond their power, and that it is better to avow the fact and accept reasonable terms of peace than to tax their country's resources further. In exchange for their loss of military prestige, of some thousands of lives, and of many millions of dollars, all that they seem likely to retain is the narrow coast strip known as Eritrea and the island port of Massowah, which was originally coveted only as a basis for extensive acquisitions on the east African mainland. Kassala, which it has cost them something to take and to hold, must be turned over to the Khedive whenever, through the overthrow or collapse of the Mahdist power, the Egyptian ruler recovers control of the middle and upper Nile. This is a melancholy outcome of the sacrifices made to satisfy Italy's desire for oversea dependencies, especially as she has seen herself ousted by France from Tunis. Even the occupation of Tripoli, to which she had looked forward confidently, has been indefinitely postponed, since the Czar has undertaken to prop the Sultan's authority and to

avert the disruption of the Turkish empire. The failure of united Italy to fulfil the dream of transmarine extension will seem particularly grievous to those Italians who recall the very different experience of Italian cities in the middle ages. There was a time when the city of Pisa had trading posts which were virtually colonies, dotted all over the Levant; and when Genoa, by means of her prosperous commercial establishments, was practically mistress of the Black Sea. Venice, through the share taken by her in the Latin conquest of Constantinople, secured a large fraction of the Byzantine empire, part of which she kept until the eighteenth century was well under way. Painful it must be for the subjects of King HUMBERT to contrast what individual cities accomplished, with the impotence of their united country in the field of colonial enterprise. No doubt the Abyssinians are brave warriors, but they are no more formidable MAN the Magnificent, yet Venice stood forth for centuries as "Europe's bulwark 'gainst

the Ottomite.' What have Italians to be proud of, from a military and naval point of view, since the aims of MAZZINI and GARIBALDI were attained by the consolidation of almost the whole of the peninsula, together with the island of Sicily, under the house of Savoy ! They have fought two great battles upon and and one at sea. At Lissa they showed no trace of the skill in maritime warfare for which they were formerly renowned. At Custozza in 1868, and again, the other day, at Adowah, although the Italian soldiers were not wanting in courage or endurance, the Italian Generals evinced a woful incapacity for leadership. Neither great Italian admirals nor great Italian commanders were wanting in former times. Must we conclude, then, that the breed is lost? Or should we rather surmise that, owing to some serious fault in the present system of government, the best men never reach the top !

The Cockney Anarchist and the Pulpit Anarchist.

Another English Anarchist, named TUR-NER, has come over to this country to travel about and preach his mad doctrine. He crossed the ocean under an assumed name and in the steerage of a steamer, though he is a man of substance accumulated under the present reign of law and order, because if he had been known for what he is he would not have been allowed to land. The Scotland Yard detectives would have spotted him it he had travelled otherwise, and would have forwarded a warning to our immigration officers.

TURNER tells the Herald that he is here on "a purely educational propaganda," and that, speaking the English language, he will have an advantage over our usual supply of imported Anarchists; for he can 'put the anarchistic idea plainly and simply before the American people in the native language." A preacher of anarchy who can talk English is "the only thing lacking," he says; and he has come over to supply the deficiency.

That deficiency, however, was supplied before the cockney Anarchist reached here last Saturday. The vacancy had already been filled by a native, PARKHURST, a professional preacher, who announced his purpose of conducting an anarchistic "educational propaganda" on his own account several weeks ago. The PARKHURST doctrine is that if a law, whether human or divine. does not suit a man, he has a right to refuse to obey it. The RAINES law, for instance, is not agreeable to PARKHURST. He hates it because he hates Mr. PLATT, who favors it; and accordingly he has started out to stir up rebellion against the law. He has declared, first in New York and afterward in a Brooklyn church, that if the Ten Commandments were nateful to him for a simi lar reason, he would break them all. The repetition indicates, of course, that the remark was the expression of a settled purpose and a fixed determination of the preacher, and not merely a hasty utterance of momentary spite. The doctrine thus proclaimed by him is substantially that a law is not binding on a man's conscience and he need not obey it as a citizen unless it commends itself to his private taste and judg ment.

That, of course, is anarchy carried to its furthest limit. It makes every man his own lawgiver, and relieves him from all obligation to obey any law, human or divine which is not agreeable to him. Even the cockney Anarchist, TURNER, cannot go to any greater extreme than that. PARK-HURST had stolen his thunder, preëmpted his ground, before he subjected himself to the discomforts of a steerage passage to New York, and hence there is no occasion for his remaining here to supply the lack of an English-speaking anarchistic preacher. PARKHURST has rendered him superfluous, and the sooner he gets out of this country the better it will be for carry on his "educational propaganda" be is sure to fetch up in an American dungeon. PARKHURST will have the advantage of immunity as a nominally religious minister. He can go on preaching anarchy in Presbyterian churches without danger of arrest. He will also be in no fear of ecclesiastical punishment; for past experience shows that he is safe from even the mildest Presbyterian rebuke, however loathsome may be his offences against society and against decency.

Bimetallism in England.

There is in this country some misapprehension as to the purport of the action of the House of Commons on March 17 in adopting unanimously a resolution moved by Mr. WHITELEY to the effect that the British Government should do all in its power to secure by international agree ment a stable, monetary par of exchange between gold and silver. This has been termed a victory for the bimetallists; but a verbatim report of the debate shows that it was described more accurately by Sir Wil-LIAM VERNON HARCOURT as the euthanasia of bimetallism, or, in other words, the last appearance of bimetallism on the English scene. That the unanimous vote simply signified a disposition to give the bimetallic question a decent and honorable burial is clear from the declarations of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, speaking for the Government, and of Sir W. HARCOURT, speaking for the Opposition. They concurred in saying that while England would be willing to see other countries establish a par of exchange between the white and yellow metals, the United Kingdom, for its own part, would now and for ever inflexibly adhere to the gold standard. There is no possibility of dislodging England from a position which has the joint approval of the Government and of the Opposition, and therefore we say that the debate on the Whiteley resolution dealt a deathblow to the bimetallic programme. which neither Germany nor the countries composing the Latin Union will ever adopt, so long as England repudiates it for herself. It is true that Mr. A. J. BALFOUR, the First Lord of the Treasury, is a bimetallist, and that with reference to many questions he is the spokesman of the Ministry in the House of Commons. On this occasion, however, he did not speak for the Government, that function being discharged by Sir MICHAEL HICES-BEACH, who is the Chancellor of the Exchequer. In a speech, which a political opponent eulogized as one that had never been surpassed in ability, in closeness of reasoning, and in downrightness of statement, Sir MICHAEL HICES-BEACH declared: "Nothing can be done, nothing should be attempted, which is against the views and the wishes of the great practical financiers and bankers of this country. It would be folly and madness in any Government to go in advance of the educated commercial opinion of the country in this matter. We cannot,

United Kingdom." With that reservation, which practically reserved everything, Sir MICHAEL was willing to give a sterile assent to the resolution that the British Government should do "all in its power" to secure by international agreement a stable, monetary par of exchange between gold and silver. We say that the reservation reserved everything, because all that the spokesmen of the Government and of the Opposition admitted to be within England's power was the reopening of the Indian mints to the free coinage of silver, in case all other nations except the British nation should adopt the bimetallic programme. Such an offer commits England to nothing, for, as we have said, England's acceptance of the double standard is a condition precedent to the adoption by other countries of the bimetallic system. This is clear from what took place in the conference of 1893, when a bimetallic resolution was proposed by the United States. It was opposed by Germany, by the Scandinavian nations, by Switzerland, and by Austria, all of whom declared themselves gold monometallists. Even France and the Latin Union were only prepared to accept it if Great Britain, Germany, Austria, and Russia would join the union, so that the resolution fell to the

even touched. In the face of this debate, it is obvious that the prospect of an agreement on the part of an international monetary conference is even more hopeless in 1896 than it was in 1893. In the year last mentioned Sir W. HARCOURT, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, was merely suspected of having in some secret manner instructed one of the delegates to the Brussels conference to declare that England did not mean to depart from the gold standard, and it has been said that this was the cause of the failure of the conference. What possible result, then, can be expected from a conference this year or next, when Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, has, not secretly, but publicly and officially, and with the utmost emphasis, averred that England has no intention of departing from

ground, and the question of what the ratio

between the metals should be in the event

of an international agreement was never

her present monetary system. No well-instructed and reasonable Amer ican bimetallist believes that it would be possible for the United States, in the abence of an international agreement, to establish, for itself alone, a stable, monetary par of exchange between gold and silver, Such an international agreement must now be recognized as a dream, for no European country would be a party to it without the concurrence of England; and that concur rence by both of the great political parties now has been refused explicitly and finally.

The Mayor Wakes Up.

From among the multifarious and perplexing qualities of his Honor of New York, Mayor STRONG, every now and then emerge certain impulses of reason or instinct which are unquestionably commendable. After nearly a year and a half since Mr.

STRONG's own election, spent in the wearisome and costly palavering of the underground Rapid Transit Commission, the Mayor has announced himself as favoring the common sense proposition of perfecting the existing rapid transit system of elevated Whether this sunburst of railroads. sound inspiration has been clouded all this time by sympathy with the Commission's aversion to any improvement that promised competition with the chimerical project of the tunnel, or whether it is a spontaneous explosion of irrepressible intelligence. the Mayor must receive equal credit; but his Honor's conception of the case is still sophomorical and calculated to block rather than to insure the desired facilities. Coupling the permit to the Elevated Railway Company for the extension of its lines, with the condition that it shall carry passengers from Yonkers to Brooklyn for five cents, presents the noble Colonel as more intent on running our rapid him. If he stays here and tries to transit under his own regulations than on giving to it the expansion demanded by the public necessities.

Give us better elevated rapid transit a once. The community of New York has always demonstrated its ability to protect itself in respect of such matters as Col. STRONG very mistakenly proposes to take into his own hands.

HORACE GREELEY would allow no Sunday rork on the New York Tribune. - Rev. Dr. Hood at ideaburg, Ill.

What a whopper! Horace Greeney alway worked on Sundays at the Tribune office, and his assistants worked too, and very lively work it was. For them Sunday was the same as any other day. Dr. Hoop should not believe all the lies that people tell him : and, above all, he should ascertain whether such a tale is true be fore he repeats it.

What is the "Taxpavers' League" of St. Louis? And what is the matter with it? Is it weak imitation of the inimitable Goo Goos of this town? It has taken the trouble to bring a suit for the purpose of restraining Mayor Cyrus PERSES WALBRIDGE from collecting his salary for the time during which he has been absent. It is said that he has been not infrequently absent, but he has never been absent except for good reasons and a holy purpose. He is a candidate for Governor of Missouri. It is perfectly natural, therefore, that he should wander from St Louis and shake the hand of the people and tes the pulse of the same. What is he for, and why is he and wherefore is he Mayor, and how can he become anything else, or rise to still more breathless heights of glory unless he goes into the country districts and cominates himself and makes rural Missouri happy with the sight of him? He ought to receive at least double salary while he is away. The Hon, CHAUNCEY IVES FILLEY, the gentle man of whose hat Iron Mountain is an exact duplicate, will attend to St. Louis, whether Mayor WALBHIDGE is present or is absent. The Taxpayers' League is either a collection of humorists or of anti-WALBRIDGE men.

One of the greatest artists ever developed n the world is the young cue-pusher Ives, the dilliard expert engaged in the tournament now playing in this city. As a matter of fact no singer, instrument player, actor, or painter has ever attained such unparalleled preëminence as has Ives on the list of his kind and when we consider the extreme nicenes of the billiard art. Ives must have a high seat among professionals in general. He has a combination of powers such as ordinarily requires several players to furnish. He has the delicace of touch, the brilliancy of execution, and the solidity of style of Stosses. Schaefel, and Sexton, each at his best, rolled into one, a phenenal conglomeration of talents. Most beautiful is the game of billiards, and Ivas is its

With no want of complimentary intention to the retiring or retired Governor of Arizona, it is still possible to say that his successor. at least the person numinated for his successor, has a name worthy of respect and applause even in Arizona. His name is FRANKLIN, the Hon. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. Presumably he goes to bed early and gets up earlier; is full of prudent saws and instances; has sound economic ideas and excellent reminiscences from the almanac; and combines an excellent literary style with all that is safe and sound in the matter of actions and investments. But how does he

stand in regard to the great, glorious, and immutable principle of 16 to 1? If the original Dr. BENJAMIN FRANKLIN himself were permitted to revisit the glimpses of the me sweetly silver orb, he would have to show tha he was orthodox in regard to this essential dogma of 10 to 1 or he would be regarded as s

frivolous and unintellectual person in Arizon.

According to a despatch sent to our es teemed contemporary, the Chicago Tribune, from Madison, Wis., "In the event of Mc-KINLEY'S nomination and election, H. C. ADAMS, State Dairy and Food Commissioner of Wis consin, will be Secretary of Agriculture." Evidently the friends of Mr. ADAMS are making excessive promises or indulging in a cruel sense of humor. It is well known that, in the event of Major McKininy's election, his Secretary of Agriculture will be the Hon, Moses PATULOUS HANDY. Mr. HANDY comes from the rural regions. He studies the crops attentively during his rapid whiskings across the country in his Mc-KINLEY observation train. And in his own perfect, ineffable, inexpressible, and practically unlimited whiskers he presents to a discriminating public a great and fine allegory of agricultural growth and development and of the possibilities of arboriculture. Without distinction of party the whole country would rise in wrath should Major HANDY's just services to the McKinter boom in the agricultural districts fall to be recognized and rewarded. Moreover, if Major HANDY can predict as much as he has predicted boom, there will always be weather enough to go round,

We believe that those who ponder most dispassionately and longest over the subject of the Republican candidate for 1896 will agree in concluding that after all the strongest before the great public would be the Hop, Levi PAR sons Monron of New York. The present Governor of the Empire State is a steady old hoss, born with wisdom, amplified with experience. and gifted with the qualities which invite men's approval, confidence, and votes.

The telegraph wires which bind the rest of the country to Cincinnati are getting into a condition of permanent incandescence in the attempt to record the fact or fiction that the HOD. WILLIAM O'CONNELL BRADLEY, GOVERNOR of Kentucky, will write to himself or somebody else a letter declaring that he is not and canno consent to become a candidate for President. In Columbus and in Akron and in Ashtabula and in several other centres and headquarters and headlights of Ohio civil-ization and the McKinker boom this view of the intentions of Mr. BRADLEY may prevail. The Governor, himself, however, is probably a better authority as to his intentions than the most incandescent wire in Cincinnati. When he takes the trouble to announce that he is out of the race he probably will believe that he is out of the race; and now or then the rest of us can think so or otherwise, according to our taste

There was a time when everybody said: Who would not be TIM BYRNES?" TIM BYRNES of Minnesota; TIM BYRNES, one of the giories of Minneapolis, the Sergeant-at-Arms of the St. Louis Convention, TIM BYRNES. The millions who are looking for tickets showered upon the Hon. TIMOTHY BYRNES adjectives thicker than adjectives grow even in Populist platforms. He was bold TIM BYRNES, and handsome TIM BYRNES, and sturdy TIM BYRNES, and genial TIM BYRNES, popular TIM BYRNES; in short, all decorative and flattering handles were appended to his name. He is just as bold, sturdy, handsome, genial, popular and so on, as ever; but probably he will not be later. The sub-committee of the Re publican National Committee has directed that applications for seats to be distributed to distinguished guests should be made to Mr. BYRNES. Now, there are probably at least 20,000,000 persons who consider themselves en titled to be distinguished guests and to occupy distinguished seats in the Convention. If the Hon. TIMOTHY BYRNES succeeds in being as popular and as handsome during the Convenion as he is now, the Hon. TIMOTHY BYRNES will be an uncommonly lucky man.

It is not only unjust, but a mark of bad temper, to find fault with the process and economy of the sessons and the rain, which is liable to rain every day in this tremulous and tender month of April. No doubt the rain of yesterday morning fell in the usual manner upon the just and the unjust, the man with the umbrella and the man with no umbrella, and the still more frequent man with somebody else's umbrella. Still it was a disappointment. The nine illustrious persons who are to uphold the honor of New York this year and bring the flush of joy to the faces of the experts on the bleaching boards were unable to appear. There was too much mud. To-day, if the heavens smile auspiciously upon the fair beginning, the fair beginning of the regular exhibition games will be made. There are many things important and not a few things interesting in this ancient, but still tolerably merry, world, and baseball is by no means the least important and interesting of them. Every lover of that noble diversion will trust that the mud which covered Manhattan Field yesterday will not be the material in which the epitaph of the New York nine will be written.

Doesn't Believe the Story of the Pen-and Ink Counterfelts.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: There are hundreds of expert penmen in this country. nany of them having attained to great perfection in what may be called fine pen drawing, including even line and stipple work in portraits and imitation of lathe work; but I oubt if one among them all can be made to believe the wonderful story that appears in THE SUN this morning concerning the forger, Emanuel Ninger.

I hold in my hand a legal tender United States note of ten dollars, a greenback, and I will pay a hundred dollars for a pen copy of it that would deceive a newsboy. Admitting, for argument's sake, that it could be doneand in no other way will I admit it there isn't a pen artist in the world that could do it in less than six months of hard labor, not four hours a day, but ten. The border alone, on the obverse side, if it could be done at all, would take a month, and that is hardly a beginning. There take the portrait of Daniel Webster, in the lower left-hand corner, and the vignetic group of Columbus before Isabella, in the lower right hand corner. Note the background even, and think of a pen fine enough, a muscle steady enough, and ink sufficiently limpid and of the proper texture to denote the aerial persective. Then take the group itself, and in your imagination work it up to the foreground with a fidelity that would fool an expert. It is not necessary to turn the bill over and make your head ache by contemplating the fine, white, perfect lines of the lathe work, so delicate as to be almost invisible to the naked eye, and to ask yourself if it could be done with a pen.

Of course, the whole thing is a fake, which not even finding it in The Sex can make "so." Any artist who could do the work attributed to this German farmer need not waste his time in counterfeiting greenbacks. He can get genuine ones for a hundredth part of the labor.

New York, April 2. less than six months of hard labor, not four NEW YORK, April 2.

One Bundred Cents on the Bollar. The following letter, sent to the President of the Chamber of Commerce, in reference to the disturbing agitation for a debased currency

through the free coinage of sliver, is instructive: Alexander E. Ovr., Eng., President Chamber of Com-merce, New York City. Bin: Answering your circular letter of March 5, only just received by us, calling on all concerned to "put a Three years and more since we "put a stop," so far

as concerned ourselves, by issuing order blanks, bills, statements, and every other document with payable in "United States gold or its equivalent" printed of each and every of them, by steadily refusing a orders offered with these conditions erased, and by replying to all complaining or abusive letters (the have been numerous) that we desired only orders from people who bought intending to pay 100 cents on the dollar. If others would have the courage of their convio

tions we are convinced from our experience that they would find the size of this "bogie" quickly shrink and eventually vanish.

We have the honor to be, very respectfully,
MINERALIZED BURNER COMPANY. G. P. DCDOK, Prosident.

MELBA RIDES THE WHEEL.

Her Stunning Contume. Her Operatio Bt.

From the Chicago Chrontole Mme. Melba, the singer, is the latest candidate for bleycle honors. Saturday she rented wheel and engaged an instructor. Yesterday morning she mounted the machine and engaged in a few falls, but after an hour and a

half of persistent effort she returned to her quarters in the Auditorium Annex a conqueror. The favorite singer had determined to learn to ride a cycle some day, and wisely chose to achieve the accomplishment in Michigan avenue, and in the very teeth of Calve and Nordica and the De Reszker and other members of the grand opera company, who, since they learned from Melba her intention to become a bicycle rider, twitted her constantly about her ability to get within reach of the knack of riding the

But Melba was not to be discouraged. It was 8 o'clock when the prima donna, accom-panied by Wille Schutz, the I'coh Bah of the

But Melba was not to be discouraged. It was 8 o'clock when the prima donna, accompanied by Wille Schutz, the Pooh Bah of the Abbey-Grau organization, a bell boy in charge of the wheel, her maid, and the bleycle instructur, reached the smooth pavement of the avenue. Few people were about, and the morning was quite suitable for the practice. When all was in readiness for the scorch, and the bell boy had planted the handsome wheel in the middle of the level and wide readway, at a safe distance from the stone curbing—opera stars like Melba take no chances on the curbs—the maid by the singer's side drew the long robe from the shoulders, and there stood revealed an early morning picture seldom seen in the doorway of the blg hostelry.

Truly, Melba's was an up-to-date cycling costume. Wille Schutz's 300-pound frame was thrilled through its every sq. are inch with amazement. He had never seen such habiliments before. Neither had the bell boy and the instrustor, but the maid had, for had she not spen half the day previous in dressing and redressing her talented mistress? As Wille Schutz said: "They were not bloomers. They were not skirts, but sort of half and half. The material of the waist, &c., was dark brown, with large, grotesque figures. She wore a cap, leggins, or what appeared to be leggins, and tan shoes. There you are:"

Gazing from the windows of the Auditorium and Annex were Calvé, Nordica, the De Reszkes, and two soere members of the big company who had been let into the secret of Melba's sarly morning engagement by Schutz. Early churchgoers stopped to take in the spectacle, and, though a bit nervous, Melba, who was to either break her bones, the wneel, or the pavement, did not appear to notice the strangers, though she had an idea of the presence of Calvé, Nordica, et al., engaging in hiarity in the windows of the Auditorium and Annex, and there was the entire grand opera company. Mme. Calvé, Nordica, Man-agor Grau, the De Reszkes, and down to every member of the chorus. A smile of pity was on the face of M

ROMANCE OF A FRENCH SOLDIER. Deserted Twice for Love of a Woman, Iwice Repented and Surrendered. From the Courrier des Etats Unis.

The story of a French soldier named Massiault, recently acquitted by the court martial of Montpellier, reads a little like a romance Young Massiault enlisted in 1882 in the Nine ty-first Regiment of infantry at Mozières He proved an excellent soldler, and was promoted successively to the grades of corporal, ser geant, sergeant-major, and adjutant. In 1888 he was a pupil in the Administration school, and was on the point of being again promoted when he made the acquaintance of young woman, with whom he fell desperately in love. To the astonishment of all, he deserted and ran away with her to Belgium. A few months later he returned to Mézières and gave himself up. He was tried by court martial, sen-tenced to four years' hard labor, and to be re-duced to the ranks on the expiration of his term of punishment. Under the amnesty law of 1889 he was released and was incorporated

term of punishment. Under the annests law of 1889 he was released and was incorporated in the 100th Regiment, carrisoned at Narsbonne. The military authorities doubtless imagined that by sending him to the other end of France they would place him out of the reach of the indicence of the beaut; that be witched him.

But in this they were mistaken. She found out where he was, and soon she arrived at Narbonne. Once more he deserted and went with her, this time to Spain. This second desertion was aggravated by the fact that he carried off his uniform and arms.

Not daring to return to France, he led a miserable life in Spain for eighteen months, but at last he could not stand it any longer, so he returned to Marseilles, where he entered the service of the Foreign Legion for five years under the false name of Stoock. Hy was sent off to Tonquin, where once more he proved himself to be a good soldier, and rapidly regained the galons of corporal, sergeant, and sergeant and sergeater and the server of th gained the galons of corporal, sergeant, and ser

nimself to be a good soluter, and rapidly regained the galons of corporal, sergeant, and sergeant-major.

Lut the recollection of his desertion weighed
upon his mind, and his false name troubled
him. Moreover, for seven years he had not
seen his parents. He became homesick, and
longed to visit his native place in the Ardennes. His term of service being about to expire, he went to the Colonel and told him who
he was. He was sent back to Narbonne, and
thence to Montbellier, where once more he appeared before the court martial. He was tried
and acquitted on account of his good record,
and the soldiers and spectators who were preent at the trial cheered him. But he had to
be again reduced to the ranks because Sergeant-Major Stocck no longer existed in the
French army. At the present time his friends
and admirers are making energetic efforts with
a view of getting him restored to his former
rank.

Making Change for \$3.50. From the Chicago Post,

Haking Change for \$3.56.

From the Chicago Post.

It was only a little \$2.50 gold piece, but it is surprising the amount of trouble a little thing can sometimes make.

The young man had handed it to the cashier in the restaurant, and was waiting for his change, while behind were two or three other people waiting for him to get out of the way.

But cashiers are methodical, and, furthermore, nine-tenths of them have one certain way of making change that involves dealing in even dollars, as a general thing. No matter what the size of the bill, they take the amount of the purchase out of the first dollar, if it is below that figure, and then hand over the rest of the money in dollars on larger bills.

That was what puzzled the cashier.

"Oh, two dollars and a half!" she said, while she was trying to make a mental calculation, according to her usual system.

"That's what it is," replied the young man.

"Of course," she returned, slipping it into the drawer. "Check, 40 cents," and she counted out 60 cents in order to get on the dollar basis as soon as possible, after her usual fashion, "one dollar, two dollars, three -no; that's not right." She was red in the face as she drew the money back and began over again, realizing that the raitry half dollar in the gold piece had thrown her financial system out of order.

She made three trials before she got the right amount of change on the counter, and—well, if you don't believe that a \$2.50 gold piece will "kneek out" the average "lightning change" cashier, try it and you will be con vinced.

A Policeman on Buty in Peminine Attire From the Detroit Pres Press.

From the listroid Press Press.
GHAND RAPIDS, Mitch., March. 27.—For several weeks the police have been trying to make a case against Mrs. Alice Wells, who runs a suite of rhoms over a Monroe street, asloon, and they succeeded at last with the aid of a member of the force who secured a clean shave and dressed as a woman. With a stalwart brother officer he went to the place, and they secured all the beer they wanted, the woman pounding upon a stove pipe to secure a waiter from below. To day the woman was convicted of selling liquor without paying the State tax. liquor without paying the State tax.

Cornered a Skunk to Narrowsburgh. From the Philadelphia Press.

From the Philadelphia Press.

Honesballe. March 29.—In close quarters, with no choice of escape, Benjamin Dexter of Narrowsburgh was savazely attacked in his chicken coop by a large skunk. So suddenly did the animal bounce upon the man that to successfully secure from his hip pocket his revolver for defence seemed almost impossible, and it was not until after a fierce hand-to-hand encounter that the maddened animal was despatched by a shot from Mr. Dexter at very close range.

SUNBEAMS.

-A cave containing a large collection of ancient pottery, thought to have been made by the Astecs, was discovered by a prospector at Twenty-nin Palms, southern California, recently.

-It is reported that the petrified remains of whale, eighty feet in length, have been found in the hills north of Lompov, a dozen miles or so back

from the sea, in Janta Barbara county, Cal.

—Cougars are unusually and unpleasantly numerous in the neighborhood of Hope, Idaho. They are

said to be rapidly thinning out the deer in that region and are causing much trouble to stockmen, -A devil fish, measuring fifteen and one-half feet from the tip of one of its eight arms to the tip of another and ten feet from the top of its head to the tip of its longest arm, was killed in the channel at Santa Barbara, Cal., by two boys a few days ago. It was the largest devil fish ever caught those waters.

each measuring a little less than six feet in length, was killed at Alameda, Cai., a few days ago. The fish fastened its tentacles on a boat which a fisher man was rowing in the harbor. The man rowed his boat ashere, the fish still clinging to it, and killed the octopus with an oar. -A whole mountain of asbestos is said to have

een discovered about four miles north of Mound Vernon, Or. The asbestos fibre varies from half an inch to two inches in length and is of excellent quality. The discovery was made through the harding of sheep on the mountain. Where the animals had tramped the rock the asbestos threads showed up like bunches of wool, -William Dyson is a negro bootblack of San Fran-

cisco with a bullet-proof skull. In a street fight the other day another colored bootblack fired three shots from a revolver at Dyson. One builet struck his skull under the skin, ledging under the right ear. The wound was slight, and after the surgeons had ved the bullet Dyson was all right again. -Experiments that have been making for some

time past in growing tobacco in Alameda county, Cal., are showing very satisfactory results. small field of tobacco was cultivated last year and s fair crop raised, and a much larger and finer crop is now coming on well in the same ground. The tobacco plant has thrived in southern California and it is now thought it can be very successfully raised in the north.

-Trapping is still a profitable business in Maine, despite the hordes of hunters who flock into the State from all over the Union. There are about s dozen veteran trappers who soour the wilderness about Moosehead Lake and Chesunoook, their lines of traps extending along scores of streams as yes practically unknown to the hunters who hunt for pleasure. These trappers bring into town in the spring good stocks of furs of various kinds, beaver bear, black cat, pine marten, and the like and they each make quite a snug sum out of their winter's work.

-California orange growers have made more money so far this year than in many seasons. The tity and quality. They were shipped from southers California a week ago at the rate of fully 100 cas loads a day, and at higher prices than have been obtained in five years. The crop was unusually fewer than 1,000 car toads of navels remained in the State. It was expected the entire orange crop would be exhausted within six weeks, or at an ear lier date than in nine years.

-There was a little after church ruction down in Pine Bluff, Logan county, W. Va., a Sunday or tw ago that illustrates some interesting features of Charley Mulins started to escort Teresa Harman to her home. Teresa's brothers objected, and Mu lina's brothers came to Charley's support. In and knives and revolvers were freely used and rocks were thrown promiscuously into the tangle of disputants. "Men, with their wives and children, fled to the neighboring woods," says the lo Stone was found to be fatally wounded with a cui in his left side. Kenton Mulius was badly shot t the left thigh, and half a dozen others were wound ed. "More trouble is looked for," as usual, B must be a rugged community where a worshipped carries his prayer book to church sandwiched be tween a bowte knife and a revolver.

-The life of the lone salcon keeper in the far West seems to be not entirely narren of interest-ing incident. Meyer's Falls, Wash., has but one saloon. Last week an Indian came to town and got very drunk and much wrought up, and broke the peace very badly. The town is without a jall, and the citizens were in a dilemma as to what to do with the red man. Finally they decided that the saloon keeper, being responsible for the Indian's condition, must also be responsible for his doings, The saloon man locked up his store and led the In dian a mile or two outside the city limits on the way to his wigwam. An hour or two later the indian returned, and only consented to go home when the saloon keeper had given him his overcoal In the early hours of the morning the Indian came back again, accompanied by several other red men, and they broke into the saloon with an axe and

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. Russia was declared free from cholers on Feb.

the first time since 1888 Sigrid Arnoldson -s to sing at the festival performances at Moscow when the Csar is crowned. more well enough to attend to his literary and

Liverpool, having discovered that it once gave

birth to a poet in Mrs. Felicia Hemans, proposes to erect a monument to commemorate the fact Hardtack is doomed in the French navy. M. Lockroy has ordered that soft bread baked on board shall henceforth be served out to the sailors instead of ship's biscuit. An Italian company at Florence, wishing to at

tract Americans and Englishmen, explains on its posters that "La Bisbetica Domata," the play gives, is Shakespeare's 'Tamed Screw.' Queen Sophia of Sweden is one of the riches women in the world. She was a princess of Nas-sau, and her brothers, from whom she inherited her ney, owned the gambling tables at Wiesbaden, Europe's population has increased by 29,928,000 n the last ten years, nearly half of the increase, 12,510,000, being in Bussia, while France has remained stationary, her total increase being only

Cambridge University has chosen as subjects for the Members' Prizes "The Monroe Doctrine the English essay and for the Latin essay "A De-fence or an Indictment of Leander Jameson and

Vesuvius is again active, liquid lava flowing from many little outlets from the crater opened last July and making she mountains very picturesque at night. Visitors climb no higher than the ervatory. Gen. Saussier, military Governor of Parts, whe in case of war would act as Commander-in-Chief of

the French army, though he has reached the age continued in office by the Ministry for three years longer. A small tract of land in New Bond street, Lon-

don, having recently been leased for sixty-four years at a ground rent of \$9.12 a square foot, the Times comments on the extraordinarily high price as amounting to almost as much as the value of land in the city.

It turns out that the British Post Office deducts

from the wages of its employees the amount of the Christmas boxes given to them. These amount in the city of London alone to \$23,000 a year, some of the men obtaining as much at \$125 each. In tip-ping them, however, the rich city firms are really tipping the Government.

While Frenchmen grumble that they still have to pay taxes in order to make up the war indemnity exacted by Prussia twenty-five years ago, the town of Koenigsberg in Prussia has only this year paid the last installment of the loan contracted to meet

the war contribution imposed on it by Napoleon L. A Jewess named Caroline Levy, now in the Beth nat Green Infirmary, proves in a curious way, that she is 110 years old. She was born in 1766, and since 1848 has drawn a pension from Baroness Rothachild's Aged Widows' Charity Fund, which is strictly confined to widows over 60 years of ago. defore granting pensions the trustees make careful investigation as to the age of the and on their books it is shown that Mrs. Levy

proved to their satisfaction that she was 62 years old forty-eight years ago. Spain is waking up to the necessity of reaffer-seting her mountains. The little king recently word to a village a few miles cast of Madrid and pla a pine sapling, after which 2,000 chi iron sciented from the Madrid schools each planted a tree. Medals were distributed among them, with the in-scription "First Artor Day Instituted in the reign of Alfonso XIII., 1800." Similar festivals are to be held yearly in different places, and the children are to be taken out to see how their trees grow, in

the hope that they will foster tree planting in them